



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 21, 2009
REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Sally Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Council Present: Sally Harrison, Brett Costley, Cindy Ball, Randy Parrow, and Kevin Hudson

Staff Present: Bob Young, City Administrator; Frank Grace, Chief of Police; Carole Connell, Planning Consultant; Jeff Bennett, City Attorney; Bob Ruhl, Public Works Director; Joann Glass, Admin.& Financial Services Manager/City Recorder

Press: Rebecca McGaugh, The Independent, LLC; Scott Laird, Vernonia's Voice

2. Additions or Corrections to Agenda

Addition- No. 4 Councilor/Committee Reports and Minutes - Scott Laird report from Parks Committee

Cindy Ball moved to accept the agenda with the addition. The motion was seconded and approved. Motion passed.

Open Public Hearing: Mayor Harrison opened the public hearing at 7:01 pm
Resolution adopting Findings in support of exempting the Columbia County Buy-out Resolution and Order No. 55-2009 Program Demolition Contract from competitive low bid requirements.

Staff Report: Jeff Bennett explained that the City has the responsibility to implement the Project and wishes to exempt the award of a contract for demolition of structures under the Project ("Demolition Contract") from the low competitive bidding requirements set forth in ORS 279C.335 and City of Vernonia Ordinance No. 812, as amended by Vernonia Ordinance No. 830 (the Procurement Ordinance"). Alternatively the City wishes to procure a Demolition Contract through the Competitive Proposal procedure.

Dan Brown explained that the project will be for groups of homes and the first group is a group of seven (7). The properties use after demolition will be determined by the City. Gazebo, community gardens, parks are some ideas of how the property can be used. No livable building structure can be placed on the property.

Proponents: There were no proponents

Opponents: There were no opponents

Neutral:

Helen Hudson, hoped that the neighbors would receive first choice for use of the property.

Close Input Portion of the Hearing: The input portion of the public hearing closed at 7:15 pm

Council Decision:

Kevin Hudson questioned the bid would be one price including the recycling of the material.

Jeff Bennett explained that a contract would allow competitive solicitation through an informal quote process for demolition contractors rather than through low competitive bidding requirements.

Close the Public Hearing: The Public Hearing closed at 7:22 pm

Decision: Cindy Ball made a motioned “to adopt, as the Local Contract Review Board, findings in support of exempting the Columbia County Buy-out Resolution and Order No. 55-209 Program Demolition Contract from competitive low bid requirements.” The motion was seconded and approved.

3. Mayor Report

Mayor Harrison presented to Mike Kay, Jeff Burch and Joann Glass, on behalf of the City Council, a letter of appreciation for the many months of work and the many hours of efforts, beyond the call of duty, to provide wonderful service to the community.

4. Councilor/Committee Reports and Minutes

Scott Laird let Council know that the Parks Committee has a new secretary, Catherine Helmer, and that minutes will again be sent to Council. Scott explained that the committee wants to restock the Vernonia Lake with fish. The revenue received from the Lake is due, in part, to the visitors coming to fish at the Lake. Larry Snethen has received contributions to restock the fish in the total of \$300. The Lions Club will match that amount to equal \$600 total. The total that is needed to restock the lake is approximately \$1,000. The Parks Committee is requesting that Council approve to transfer \$400 from Parks Contingency to Parks Operations for the restocking of fish in the Lake.

Brett Costley moved “to approve transfer of \$400 from parks contingency to parks operation for the restocking of fish in the Lake.” The motion was seconded and passed.

5. Topics from the Floor

A letter, from Dawn Carr, resident and business owner, to the Council was read by Mayor Harrison. The letter was to let Council know how much she appreciates the services of the Vernonia Police Department and how much of an asset Officers Kay and Conner are to the community. The fast response due to a life threatening accident saved her son’s life and their reassurance when a smoke bomb was put in her truck that it wouldn’t blow up made her feel secure.

Jill Hult, representing Ford Leadership, explained that the project they have chosen for the community was a community garden and encouraged the Council to construct a contract for groups and individuals to be able to use property for community gardens that is, and will be, available. The Ford Leadership group has one year to complete their project.

6. Consent Agenda:

A. City Council Minutes September 8, 2009

B. Cash Disbursements September 15, 2009

Randy Parrow moved to accept the Consent Agenda as written.

The motion was seconded and passed.

7. Unfinished Business: No unfinished business

8. Business from Departments

A. Police

Chief Grace let council know that the Cornelius Police Department has donated to the city a vehicle.

There was one MIP referral from the first home game over the weekend.

B. City Administrator

Bob Young presented to Jeff Burch and Bob Ruhl keys to a 4 x 4 2006 Ford utility truck that is being leased for use by the Public Works Department. The old utility truck will be surplus.

C. Public Works

Bob Ruhl explained that he was so overwhelmed by the presentation of the 4x4 utility truck he was speechless.

9. Ordinances/Resolutions

A. Resolution No 20-09 adopting findings in support of exempting the Columbia County Buy-out Resolution and Order No. 55-2009 Program Demolition Contract from competitive low bid requirements.

Brett Costley moved to “adopt Resolution No. 20-09”. The motion was seconded and passed.

B. Second Reading Ordinance No. 862 An Ordinance of the City of Vernonia adopting the Columbia County Coordinated Population Projection for the City and Amending the Vernonia Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) to re-locate the Vernonia Public School Complex.

Carole Connell reported to Council the findings in response to DLCD comments and state administrative rules for expanding urban growth boundaries.

Brett Costley moved that “Ordinance No. 862 be adopted” The motion was seconded and passed. The panel was polled and there were 5 Ayes.

10. Items from Mayor, Councilors, City Administrator and Public Works Director

Mayor Harrison was “eyeballs” in the Play for the Salmon Festival on October 1, 2009 at 4:00 pm at Hawkins Park.

Kevin Hudson was busy with the play.

Randy Parrow has been fixing dinner so that his wife can go to rehearsals for the play.

Cindy Ball - quite a week.

Bob Young let Council know that he was looking into bringing a person in to audit the financial programs then present a report to show if the finance position should be part-time or full-time and if payroll should be off-site or hire a payroll clerk.

Adjournment: Mayor Harrison adjourned the September 21, 2009 meeting at 8:55 pm.

Signed this _____ day of _____ 2009

Sally Harrison, Mayor

Attest: _____
Joann M Glass, City Recorder

The September 21, 2009 Minutes were approved by City Council on October 5, 2009